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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,520	02/13/2002	Duncan Kerr	APL1P218	8920
22434	7590	11/26/2004	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP P.O. BOX 778 BERKELEY, CA 94704-0778			NGUYEN, KEVIN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2674	

DATE MAILED: 11/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/075,520	Applicant(s) KERR, DUNCAN	
	Examiner Kevin M. Nguyen	Art Unit 2674	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The remarks filed on 07/21/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The rejections of claims 1-54 are maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 20, 22-26, 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Laurikka et al (US 6,608,996).
2. As to claims 20, 32, Laurikka teaches a display device associated with a method, the display device comprising

The display 9, keyboard 11, and/or antenna 12 of the wireless communication device 7 can be arranged to change color by producing the part from a material which changes color under the effect of an electric or electromagnetic control signal. The display, the keyboard and/or the antenna can be arranged to change color by means of the control signal in a similar way as presented in connection with the color change of the cover. The color can be changed for example when a call or a text message arrives, when the state of charge of the battery is weak, or when the user sets the color

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on the display to a different one by means of the menu of the wireless communication device (col. 6, lines 1-12).

As to claims 22-26 Laurikka teaches a battery indicator and the signal indicator in the screen 9 adjacent two light element of the casing 1 (see fig. 3).

As to claims 28-30, 33, Laurikka teaches the computer device is a general-purpose computer (col. 6, lines 47-48).

As to claim 31, Laurikka teaches a mobile phone (see fig. 3, col. 4, line 44).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 21, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laurikka et al in view of Bayramoglu et al.

As to claim 21, Laurikka teaches all of the claimed limitations, except for said illuminating operates to drive the light elements recited in claim 21.

However, Bayramoglu teaches a plurality of light emitting diodes (fig. 2, col. 4, line 46), a light controller (the USB hub/peripheral controller 300, fig. 4) drives the light elements.

Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Laurikka's light elements including a USB hub/peripheral controller 300, in view of the teaching in the Bayramoglu's reference

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because this would provide a sustain a blinking LED even while the base system is in a sleep mode as taught by Bayramoglu (abstract, 4 last line).

As to claim 27, Bayramoglu teaches colored light emitting diodes (fig. 2).

4. Claims 1-19, 34-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayramoglu et al (US 6,289,466) in view of Laurikka et al.

5. As to claims 1, 10, Bayramoglu teaches a computer system (fig. 1) associated with a method, the computer system comprising

a microprocessor (a processor 100, fig. 1), a data storage device (a memory 112, fig. 1);

light system (LEDs are on the font bezel indicate monitor and base system power status (abstract, 2 last lines), a dynamic light effect based on the monitored events (fig. 2, col. 6, lines 35-53);

a computer case (base system B, fig. 1) is a housing containing the microprocessor 100, the memory 112 (fig. 1);

a monitor 102 (fig.1) comprises a housing (a bezel 206 containing the light system, fig. 2);

Accordingly, Bayramoglu teaches all of the claimed limitations, except for the light system provides said housing with a dynamic ornamental appearance.

However, Laurikka teaches a cover composing a light system (fig. 3) can function as an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8 of the cover 1 (fig. 3, col. 4, lines 55-58).

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Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bayramoglu's housing including an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8, in view of the teaching in the Laurikka's reference because this would provide the user wishes to change/ decorate the outer appearance of his/her electronic device as taught by Laurikka (col. 1, lines 8-9).

As to claims 2, 13, Laurikka teaches multi-colored (different colors, col. 2, line 42).

As to claim 3, 19, Bayramoglu teaches a desktop computer system (fig. 1).

As to claims 4, 5, Bayramoglu teaches a light emitting diodes 210, 214 (fig. 4), a light controller (UBS HUB/peripheral controller 300, fig. 4).

As to claims 6, 15, Laurikka teaches a cover 1 is transparent (col. 3, line 6).

As to claims 7-9, 14, 16-18, Bayramoglu teaches computer status conditions (see col. 6, lines 35-53).

As to claims 11, 12, Laurikka et al teaches besides indicating that a call or a text message is arriving/has arrived, the change of the color or pattern of the cover can also indicate the state of the device and the mobile communication network. By changing the color or pattern of the cover, it is possible to give an alarm, a warning or a message for the user of the state of the device or the mobile communication network, for example by changing the color of the cover, it is possible to warn the user that the charge of the battery is weak, report a weak signal strength, or give an alarm in case of a failure (col.

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4, lines 58-67). Thus, the teaching of Laurikka meets the claimed limitations "a dynamic light effect and a dynamic ornamental appearance."

6. As to claim 34, 39, Laurikka teaches a display device associated with a method, the display device comprising

The display 9, keyboard 11, and/or antenna 12 of the wireless communication device 7 can be arranged to change color by producing the part from a material which changes color under the effect of an electric or electromagnetic control signal. The display, the keyboard and/or the antenna can be arranged to change color by means of the control signal in a similar way as presented in connection with the color change of the cover. The color can be changed for example when a call or a text message arrives, when the state of charge of the battery is weak, or when the user sets the color on the display to a different one by means of the menu of the wireless communication device (col. 6, lines 1-12).

Laurikka teaches all of the claimed limitations, except for driving at least one light element recited in claim 34.

However, Bayramoglu teaches a plurality of light emitting diodes (fig. 2, col. 4, line 46), a light controller (the USB hub/peripheral controller 300, fig. 4) drives the light elements.

Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Laurikka's light elements including a USB hub/peripheral controller 300, in view of the teaching in the Bayramoglu's reference

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because this would provide a sustain a blinking LED even while the base system is in a sleep mode as taught by Bayramoglu (abstract, 4 last line).

As to claim 35, Laurikka teaches a casing 1 (fig. 3) comprising inherently a processor (col. 8, line 32), a memory (col. 5, line 35), inherently an input/out ports.

As to claim 36, Laurikka teaches a battery indicator and the signal indicator in the screen 9 adjacent two light element of the casing 1 (see fig. 3).

As to claim 37, 38, 41, Laurikka teaches the computer device is a general-purpose computer (col. 6, lines 47-48).

As to claim 40, Bayramoglu teaches colored light emitting diodes (fig. 2).

As to claim 42, Laurikka teaches the user can switch on such a colored cover indicator function from the menu of the wireless communication device, wherein the color of the cover 1 of the wireless communication device is changed when a call or a text message arrives (col. 3, lines 28-32).

7. As to claim 43, Bayramoglu teaches a computer system comprising
-
- an event monitor (a monitor microprocessor controller 302, fig. 3);
 - a light effect manager (USB HUB/peripheral controller 300, fig. 3);
 - a light arrangement (a bezel 206 containing the light system, fig. 2 and fig. 3);

Accordingly, Bayramoglu teaches all of the claimed limitations, except for illuminable housing with a dynamic ornamental appearance.

However, Laurikka teaches a cover composing a light system (fig. 3) can function as an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8 of the cover 1 (fig. 3, col. 4, lines 55-58).

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Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bayramoglu's housing including an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8, in view of the teaching in the Laurikka's reference because this would provide the user wishes to change/ decorate the outer appearance of his/her electronic device as taught by Laurikka (col. 1, lines 8-9).

As to claim 44, Bayramoglu teaches a monitor microprocessor controller 302, fig. 3).

As to claim 45, Bayramoglu teaches a computer system which includes an operating system.

As to claim 46, Bayramoglu teaches said computer event is one of input data (data and clock input from I²C 310, fig. 4).

As to claim 47, Laurikka teaches a cover composing a light system (fig. 3) can function as an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8 of the cover 1 (fig. 3, col. 4, lines 55-58).

As to claim 48, Laurikka teaches a light system (fig. 3) that produces the desired light effect (the lights flash when the text message or a call have arrived, fig. 3, col. 4, lines 1-3).

8. Claims 49-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayramoglu et al in view of Laurikka et al, and further in view of McDonough et al (US 6,486,873).

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As to claims 49-54, Bayramoglu and Laurikka teach all of the claimed limitations, except for a peripheral device are illuminated housing.

However, McDonough teaches a mouse is illuminated housing (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 1-4).

Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide Bayramoglu's computer system including the mouse is illuminated housing, in view of the teaching in McDonough's reference because this would provide a user more efficiently and accurately locate the device during reduced lighting condition or no light conditions as taught by McDonough (col. 2, lines 38-40).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 07/21/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

10. In response to applicant's argument that claims 20, 32 recite "...illuminating a plurality of regions of the housing..." and applicant states that "electronic inks do not use illumination but rather an electric field," page 10, 4 last lines. These arguments are not persuasive because claims 20, 32 are simple method claims which do not limit the use of electronic ink to perform the steps of illuminating a plurality of regions of the housing. Therefore, the teaching of Laurikka's reference provides the "substantial evidence" and established a prima facie case of anticipation to produce and result the claimed limitation "illuminating a plurality of regions of the housing."

11. In response to applicant's argument that claim 20 recites "...sampling a plurality of regions on the screen display to acquire color indicators for the plurality of regions..."

and claim 32 recites "...determining color indicators for a plurality of regions on the screen display..."

These arguments are not persuasive because Laurikka teaches in order to be able to form different patterns 8 on the surface of the cover 1, it has to be possible to change the color on the cover of the wireless communication device 7 in small sections (col. 4, lines 45-48). The desired pattern can be formed from these small areas which can be controlled separately by means of control signals. The cover 1 of the wireless communication device 7 can also function as an indicator which indicates a particular change by changing color or the pattern 8 of the cover 1 (col. 4, lines 52-58). For example, by changing the color of the battery is weak, report a weak signal strength (col. 4, lines 64-66). Thus, the screen display 9 (fig. 3) includes display indicators of the battery icon and signal icon (emphasis, two small regions of the display 9, fig. 3) which can be arranged to change color of two small regions (emphasis) by means of the control signal in accordance with different pattern 8 on the surface of the cover 1.

Therefore, the teaching of Laurikka's reference provides the "substantial evidence" and established a prima facie case of anticipation to produce and result the claimed limitations "...sampling a plurality of regions on the screen display to acquire color indicators for the plurality of regions..." and "...determining color indicators for a plurality of regions on the screen display..."

12. In response to applicant's argument that claim 20 recites "changing the color of the cover based on the color of display." This argument is not persuasive because of the reasons as stated of the paragraph 11 above.

Therefore, the teaching of Laurikka's reference provides the "substantial evidence" and established a prima facie case of anticipation to produce and result the claimed limitation "changing the color of the cover based on the color of display."

13. In response to applicant's argument that claim 1 recites "...wherein said light system provides said housing with a dynamic ornamental appearance." Claim 10 recites "...illuminating at least a non-insignificant portion of the housing of the general computer system..."

These arguments are not persuasive because Bayramoglu teaches a housing of a computer comprising a plurality of light emitting diodes 208, 210, 218, 212 (a light system as claimed, fig. 2).

Laurikka teaches a cover 1 (a housing, fig. 3) can function as an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8 of the cover 1 (an illuminable housing so as to dynamically change the ornamental appearance of said housing as claimed, fig. 3, col. 4, lines 55-58).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bayramoglu's housing including changing the ornamental appearance of cover, in view of the teaching in the Laurikka's reference because this would provide the user wishes to change/decorate the outer appearance of his/her electronic device as taught by Laurikka (col. 1, lines 8-9). See col. 6, lines 45-56 of Laurikka for more motivation.

These arguments are not persuasive because claim 10 is a simple method claim which does not limit the use of electronic ink to perform the step of illuminating at least a non-insignificant portion of the housing of the general computer system.

14. In response to applicant's argument that claim 34 recites "driving at least one light element at the illuminable regions of the housing...thereby illuminating the regions of the housing." Claim 39 recites "...determining illumination characteristics for the housing..." These arguments are not persuasive because of the reasons as stated of the paragraph 11 above. These arguments are not persuasive because claim 34 is a simple method claim which does not limit the use of electronic ink to perform the step of illuminating a plurality of regions of the housing. Claim 34 is a simple method claim which does not limit the use the effect of an electric control signal (col. 6, lines 4-5) to perform the step of driving at least one light element at the illuminable regions of the housing. Claim 39 is a simple method claim which does not limit the use the control signal to perform the steps of determining illumination characteristics for the housing.

15. In response to applicant's argument that claim 43 recites "...an illuminable housing...a light arrangement...disposed in said housing, said light arrangement being configured to illuminate said illuminate housing so as to dynamically change the ornamental appearance of said housing..."

These arguments are not persuasive because Bayramoglu teaches a housing of a computer comprising a plurality of light emitting diodes 208, 210, 218, 212 (a light arrangement as claimed, fig. 2).

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Laurikka teaches a cover 1 (a housing, fig. 3) can function as an indicator with indicates a particular change by changing the color or the pattern 8 of the cover 1 (an illuminable housing so as to dynamically change the ornamental appearance of said housing as claimed, fig. 3, col. 4, lines 55-58). See paragraph 11 above for more explanation of changing the ornamental appearance of the housing.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bayramoglu's housing including changing the ornamental appearance of cover, in view of the teaching in the Laurikka's reference because this would provide the user wishes to change/decorate the outer appearance of his/her electronic device as taught by Laurikka (col. 1, lines 8-9). See col. 6, lines 45-56 of Laurikka for more motivation.

For these reasons, the rejections based on Laurikka et al and Bayramoglu et al have been maintained.

Conclusion

16. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Kevin M. Nguyen** whose telephone number is **703-305-6209**. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-THU from 9:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard A Hjerpe** can be reached on **703-305-4709**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

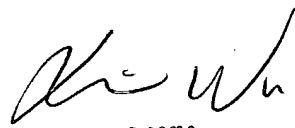
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Kevin M. Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2674


XIAO WU
PRIMARY EXAMINER